

7 March 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

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SUBJECT: Conversation with [REDACTED]

AFCIN-3

1. On the morning of 27 February 1962 a conversation was held in the office of Ch/D/GG/RR between [REDACTED]

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Geography Division, ORR, and [REDACTED]

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members of an AFCIN-3 unit located with [REDACTED]

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2. The primary reason for the visit by the AFCIN representatives was to obtain information from D/GG on which to base a reply to a teletype query from SAC, Omaha, dated 20 February 1962, concerning prospects for updating and reprinting CIA-produced Evasion Geographies. The SAC message cited a CIA memo of 10 March 1961, Subject: Evasion and Escape Affairs, which stated that the CIA Evasion Geographies "were out of print and outdated and that there was no prospect of revising and updating them." Neither [REDACTED] was familiar with the cited 10 March 1961 memo. It had not originated in D/GG, nor was there any recollection of its having been coordinated with this Division.

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3. With respect to the SAC query, [REDACTED] stated that D/GG had no plans for revision of the Evasion Geographies in question, and would not undertake such work without a formally-submitted Air Force request which stated a need sufficient to justify the introduction of such a work program into an already heavily-loaded schedule of priority research activity. He pointed out the difficulties of justifying any sizable program of research for contingency planning, especially to meet the contingency requirements of another agency.

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4. The AFCIN representatives stated that they had already dispatched an interim reply to the SAC query, asking SAC to indicate in priority order the areas for which revised Evasion Geographies are needed. It was agreed that such a list, together with the formal indication of Air Force need for revised studies, would enable CIA to give realistic consideration to the SAC request. [REDACTED] estimated that, if the Air Force request were approved, GG/F might be able to produce about three revised Evasion Geographies per year without serious disruption of the Branch's present research program. He emphasized, however, that such a production rate would be contingent on the conditions that 1) revisions rather than complete reworkings would suffice, and that 2) no other

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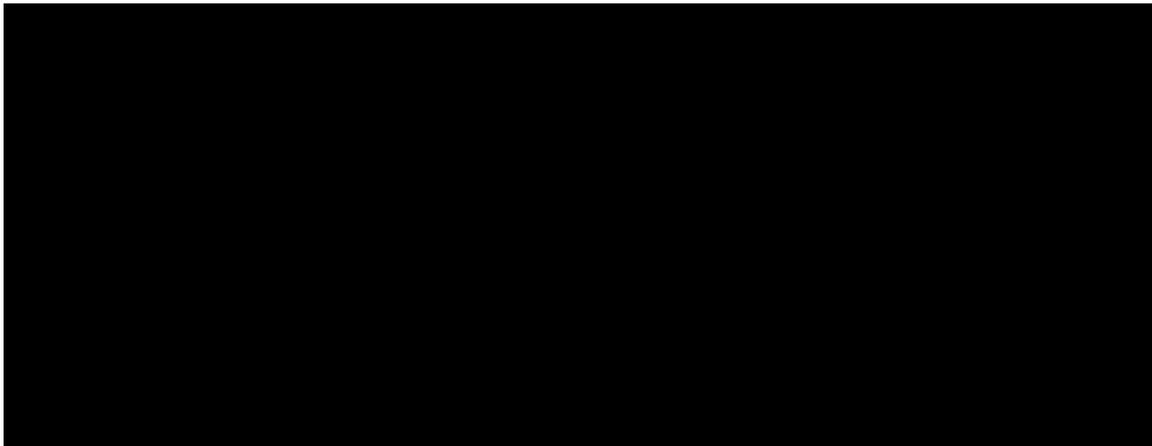
unforeseen major research programs of higher priority would materialize. In the meantime, it was agreed that investigation would be made to determine 1) the possible existence of unused stocks of earlier editions of the Evasion Geographies, and 2) the feasibility of reprinting new supplies of the earlier editions that are still substantively adequate to meet SAC needs.

5. The discussion then turned to the Safe Area Briefs and Safe Area Intelligence Descriptions being produced by the AFCIN-3 unit in PMG and being issued as Air Force publications. [REDACTED] indicated 25X1A9a that GG/F had found a number of substantive errors in the SAB's and SAID's thus far examined on China and Southeast Asia. The AFCIN representatives stated that they were aware that these issuances probably had substantive shortcomings, and that they had wanted to have these items checked in draft form by the area specialists in D/GG but had been prevented from doing so by the Chief, TAB, PMG. On being questioned, [REDACTED] reiterated D/GG's ability to assist on these issuances by providing a substantive review of the AFCIN drafts; [REDACTED] were asked, however, to accompany the first drafts with a formal memo of request.

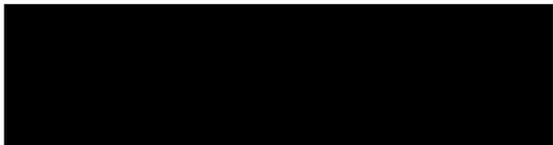
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